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Policy and Program Announcements

Livestock and Products

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Grain and Feed

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Report Highlights:

The Customs Union (CU) Commission of Russia, Kazakhstan, and Belarus held their 33rd meeting on December 9, 2011. Summaries of relevant decisions impacting CU food and agriculture policy are contained in this report.

General Information

The Customs Union (CU) Commission of Russia, Kazakhstan, and Belarus held their 33rd meeting on December 9, 2011. Summaries of relevant decisions impacting CU food and agriculture policy follow. The decisions are hyperlinked via Google Translate for readers seeking further details. Select “refresh” on your browser if the page does not translate to the end. Please note that the CU is often delayed when publishing attachments to decisions. If there is an attachment in a decision that is not yet linked, please check back again.

Publication Date: December 12, 2011

[Decision 859](#). *On bringing the regulatory framework of the Customs Union in accordance with the single Commodity Nomenclature for Foreign Economic Activity of the Customs Union and the Common Customs Tariff of the Customs Union, approved by Customs Union Commission Decision 850 of November 18, 2011*

Summary: The document cancels and amends numerous CU Commission decisions to replace old CU HS codes with new ones that come into effect on January 1, 2012, as the CU adopts the 2012 HS Nomenclature of the World Customs Organization. The Decision also specifies that current licenses and other permits for export and/or import of goods in the CU issued prior to January 1, 2012, shall be valid until their expiration.

[Decision 864](#). *On introduction of a temporary ban on the export of raw hides from the territory of the Republic of Belarus*

Summary: The CU Commission notes that Belarus has imposed a temporary ban on exports of raw hides and skins (HS 4101) from December 5, 2011, through June 5, 2012, and requests that Kazakhstan and Russia consider imposing a similar measure.

Publication Date: December 15, 2011

[Decision 871](#). *On amendments and additions to Customs Union Commission Decision 450 of November 18, 2010, “On the structure and format of electronic copies of customs value declarations and the form for adjustment of customs value and customs payment,” and Decision 785 of September 23, 2011, “On amendments and additions to the Procedure for Declaration of Customs Value of Goods”*

Summary: The document contains updated versions of attachments No. 1 and 2 to CU Decision 450 of November 18, 2010, which spell out the structure and format of electronic copies of customs value declarations and the form for adjustment of customs value and customs payment. The Decision also delays the implementation of earlier amendments and additions to the Procedure for Declaration of Customs Value of Goods, per CU Decision 785 of September 23, 2011, from January 1, 2012, to April 1, 2012.

Decision 874. *On adoption of the technical regulations of the Customs Union “On Safety of Grain”*

Summary: The document (1) adopts the technical regulations (TR) of the Customs Union “On Safety of Grain” and (2) approves the List of standards, containing rules and methods of testing (analysis) and measurements, including the rules for selecting samples, required for the application and implementation of the requirements of the CU TR “On Safety of Grain” and assessment (confirmation) of conformity of goods. The text of the TR and the List have not yet been published. According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013. The Decision contains a number of transitional provisions to be in effect through February 15, 2015, and July 1, 2018.

Decision 880. *On adoption of the technical regulations of the Customs Union “On Food Safety”*

Summary: The document: (1) adopts the CU TR “On Food Safety;” (2) approves the List of standards, the voluntary application of which ensures the implementation of the TR requirements; and (3) approves the List of standards, containing rules and methods of testing (analysis) and measurements, including the rules for selecting samples, required for the application and implementation of the TR requirements and assessment (confirmation) of conformity of goods. The text of the TR and the Lists have not yet been published. According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013. The Decision contains a number of transitional provisions in effect through February 15, 2015. It also mandates that the CU Commission Secretariat and the Parties develop additional documents and procedures and take the necessary actions to ensure implementation of the TR from July 1, 2013.

Decision 881. *On adoption of the technical regulations of the Customs Union “Food Products Labeling”*

Summary: The document adopts the CU TR “Food Products Labeling”. The text of the TR has not yet been published. According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013. The Decision contains a transitional provision in effect through February 15, 2015.

Decision 882. *On adoption of the technical regulations of the Customs Union “Technical Regulations for Juice Products from Fruits and Vegetables”*

Summary: The document: (1) adopts the CU TR “Technical Regulations for Juice Products from Fruits and Vegetables;” (2) approves the List of standards, the voluntary application of which ensures the implementation of the TR requirements; and (3) approves the List of standards, containing rules and methods of testing (analysis) and measurements, including the rules for selecting samples, required for the application and implementation of the requirements of the TR and assessment (confirmation) of conformity of goods. The text of the TR and the Lists have not yet been published. According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013. The Decision contains a number of transition provisions in effect through February 15, 2015.

Decision 883. *On adoption of the technical regulations of the Customs Union “Technical Regulations on Oil and Fat Products”*

Summary: The document: (1) adopts the CU TR “Technical Regulations on Oil and Fat Products;” (2) approves the List of standards, the voluntary application of which ensures the implementation of the TR requirements; and (3) approves the List of standards, containing rules and methods of testing (analysis) and measurements, including the rules for selecting samples, required for the application and implementation of the TR requirements and assessment (confirmation) of conformity of goods. The text of the TR and the Lists have not yet been published. According to the Decision, the TR shall come into force as of July 1, 2013. The Decision contains a number of transitional provisions to be in effect through January 1, 2014, and February 15, 2015.

Decision 885. *On amendments to the Unified Register of Certification Bodies and Testing Laboratories (Centers) of the Customs Union, approved Customs Union Commission Decision 527 of January 28, 2011*

Summary:

Belarus: (1) adds 3 new certification bodies to the 52 that are currently in the Register; (2) delists 4 testing laboratories from the 372 that are currently in the Register; and (3) adds 7 new testing laboratories to the Register.

Kazakhstan: (1) delists 17 certification bodies from the 118 that are currently in the Register; (2) adds 3 new certification bodies to the Register; (3) delists 67 testing laboratories from the 482 that are currently in the Register; and (4) adds 67 new testing laboratories to the Register.

Russia: (1) delists 59 certification bodies from the 840 that are currently in the Register; (2) adds 243 new certification bodies to the Register; (3) delists 65 testing laboratories from the 1,259 that are currently in the Register; (4) adds 505 new testing laboratories to the Register; and (5) amends 8 existing entries for certification bodies and 1 entry for a testing laboratory.

Decision 887. *On draft Protocol amending the Agreement of the Customs Union on Sanitary Measures of December 11, 2009*

Summary: The CU Parties are requested to carry out the necessary domestic procedures for adoption of the Protocol amending the Agreement of the Customs Union on Sanitary Measures of December 11, 2009, and report the results to the CU Commission Secretariat by January 10, 2012. The text of the Protocol has not yet been published.

Decision 888. *On amendments to the Regulation on the Implementation of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision (Control) over Persons and Vehicles Crossing the Customs Border of the Customs Union, the Controlled Goods Moved through the Customs Border of the Customs Union and in the Customs Territory of the Customs Union*

Summary: The amendments redefine the deadline for validity of the documents, confirming safety of production (goods), issued by authorized bodies of the Parties before coming into force of the Agreement of the Customs Union on Sanitary Measures, previously set throughout the document at “January 1, 2012” to the new deadline formulated as follows: “date of entry into force of the technical regulations of the Customs Union for the respective kinds of products (goods), unless otherwise established by the technical regulations of the Customs Union for such kinds of products (goods) or by the decision of the Customs Union Commission on its adoption.”

Decision 889. *On amendments to the Uniform Sanitary-Epidemiological and Hygienic Requirements for Goods Subject to Sanitary Supervision (Control)*

Summary: The amendments affect the following sections in Chapter II of the Uniform Sanitary-Epidemiological and Hygienic Requirements for Goods Subject to Sanitary Supervision (Control), approved by Customs Union Commission Decision 299 of May 28, 2010:

- Section 1 “Requirements for Food Product Safety and Nutritional Value”
 - Adapted infant formula (dry, liquid, fresh and sour milk)
 - Sodium biscuits
 - Low lactose and non-lactose products
 - Products based on soy protein isolates
 - Dry high-protein dairy products
 - The products on the basis of full or partial protein hydrolysates
 - Products with no or low phenylalanine its content for children 1 year of life
 - Appendix 4 “Maximum Allowable Residue Levels for Veterinary (zootechnic) drugs in food products of animal origin subject to control according to the information on their use for production of raw food materials”
 - Appendix 6 “The List of Plants and Products of their Processing, Objects of Animal Origin, Microorganisms, Fungi, and Biologically Active Substances, Banned for Use in the Biologically Active Additives to Food”
 - Appendices 7, 8, 9, and 11 regarding vitamins
- Section 15 “Requirements for Pesticides and Agrochemicals”
 - Appendix 15.1 regarding hygienic standards of pesticide content in the environment, raw food materials, and food products.
- Section 22 “Requirements for Safety of Food Additives and Flavorings”

Decision 892. *On amendments to the forms of the Uniform Veterinary Certificates for Controlled Goods Imported into the Customs Territory of the Customs Union from Third Countries*

Summary: The Decision amends 36 of the 40 existing forms of the Uniform Veterinary Certificates for Controlled Goods Imported into the Customs Territory of the Customs Union from Third Countries. The following four CU Uniform Veterinary Certificates are not affected by the present decision:

- Veterinary certificate for slaughter pigs exported to the Customs Union (Form No. 9)
- Veterinary certificate for canned food, sausages, and other types of prepared meat products exported to the Customs Union (Form No. 26)
- Veterinary certificate for egg powder, mélange, albumin, and other food products from chicken eggs exported to the Customs Union (Form No. 31)
- Veterinary certificate for food products from fish, crustaceans, mollusks, aquatic animals, fishery objects and products derived from their processing exported to the Customs Union (Form No. 38)

Decision 893. *On amendments to the Uniform Veterinary (Veterinary-Sanitary) Requirements for the Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Supervision)*

Summary: The Decision amends the following chapters of the Uniform Veterinary (Veterinary-Sanitary) Requirements for the Goods Subject to Veterinary Control (Supervision), approved by CU Commission Decision 317 of June 18, 2010:

- Chapter 1: “VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS for the import of breeding and productive cattle in the customs territory of the Customs union and/or transfer between the Parties”
- Chapter 2: “VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS for the import of bovine semen on the customs territory of the Customs union and/or transfer between the Parties”
- Chapter 22: “VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS for the import of meat and other meat food raw materials on the customs territory of the Customs union and/or transfer between the Parties” – this chapter is completely rewritten.

Decision 894. *On Amendments to the Regulation on the Implementation of Quarantine Pest Control (Supervision) at the Customs Border of the Customs Union, approved by Customs Union Commission Decision 318 of June 18, 2010*

Summary: The decision supplements the above Regulation with the following two Appendices:

- Appendix No. 1: Forms of Stamps
- Appendix No. 1: Forms of Act of quarantine pest control (supervision)

Decision 895. *On the Action Plan required for implementation of technical regulations of the Customs Union*

Summary: The Decision approves an Action Plan for implementation of the CU TR “On Safety of Packaging”, which lists such pending measures as amendments to existing CU requirements, CU Commission Decisions, explanation on TR implementation, bringing national legal acts in compliance with the TR, as well as seminars and conferences devoted to the TR’s implementation.

Decision 896. *On the Uniform Forms of Documents on Assessment (Confirmation) of Conformity (Declaration of Conformity with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union, the Certificate of Conformity with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union)*

Summary: The Decision amends the Uniform Forms of (1) the CU Declaration of Conformity with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union and (2) the Certificate of Conformity with Technical Regulations of the Customs Union.

Decision 897. *On the program of statistical work of the Centre of Customs Statistics of the Customs Union Commission in 2012*

Summary: The Decision approves the above Program, which lists statistical publications and databases that are to be issued or established by the Center of Customs Statistics of the CU Commission, including deadlines or frequency of publications and updates.

Decision 898. *On the reorganization activities of the Commission of the Customs Union*

Summary: The Decision contains (1) a draft budget for reorganization activities of the Customs Union Commission totaling RUR 212 million (\$7 million) and (2) a draft decision of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council (the supreme body of the Common Economic Space to be launched as of January 1, 2012, and replace the EurAsEc Interstate Council), which includes provisions on a liquidation plan for the CU Commission.